## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

July 8, 2014

## STATEMENT BY SECRETARY KERRY

Argentina's Independence Day

On behalf of President Obama and the people of the United States, I congratulate the people of Argentina as you celebrate your Independence Day on July 9.

Our countries have enjoyed 200 years of common interests and shared values. My ancestor, John Murray Forbes, served as a U.S. diplomat in Argentina soon after independence came to the Rio de la Plata region and modern Argentina was born. He stood alongside your forefathers as they built a strong foundation for democracy, peace, and shared prosperity.

The United States is proud to be Argentina's partner in educational and cultural exchanges, science and technology, clean energy development, and space exploration. We share a commitment to strengthening democracy, promoting human rights, and expanding social inclusion.

The United States wishes all Argentines not only a joyful celebration of your independence, but also good luck to the Albiceleste team in the World Cup.

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